

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-35 (Canceled).

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): A process according to Claim 68 ~~[[35]]~~, including a step of deactivating wherein, to change a coverage width of plasma and substrate, at least one of said nozzles plasma beam is deactivated or activated and/or an angle of incidence of the row formed by the plasma beams is changed with respect to a direction of advance.

Claims 37-39 (Cancelled).

Claim 40 (Currently Amended): A process according to Claim ~~[[34]]~~ 67, ~~wherein including a step of providing a relative movement is brought about between the plasma and the substrate parallel to the edge of the substrate from which the coating is to be removed.~~

Claims 41-43 (Cancelled).

Claim 44 (Currently Amended): A process according to Claim ~~[[34]]~~ 68, wherein the plasma is also used to remove the coating from end edges or faces of the substrate, wherein the plasma beams are directed essentially in the normal direction onto the end edges or faces.

Claim 45 (Cancelled).

Claim 46 (Currently Amended): A process according to Claim ~~[[45]]~~ 70, wherein ~~[[a]] the shield which~~ surrounds ~~[[the]]~~ a working region of the plasma in the manner of a frame ~~is used~~.

Claim 47 (Currently Amended) A process according to Claim ~~[[34]]~~ 68, wherein particles which are detached in the working region are immediately removed by a discharge device.

Claim 48 (Cancelled).

Claim 49 (Currently Amended): A process according to Claim ~~[[34]]~~ 68, used to remove metal, oxide, nitride or organic coatings or combinations of the layer types.

Claim 50 (Currently Amended): A process according to Claim ~~[[34]]~~ 68, used to remove hydrophobic and/or hydrophilic coatings.

Claims 51-66 (Cancelled).

Claim 67 (New): A process for removing a coating from coated substrates, while preparing the substrates for subsequent uses in which a surface of the substrate that has been at least partially freed of coating is required, comprising:

directing a plasma onto a region of a substrate from which a coating is to be removed using a plurality of nozzles, at least one of which is slit shaped, to locally remove the coating, wherein the plasma has an effective width/area determined by the nozzles; and

modifying the effective plasma width/area by rotating at least one of the slit shaped nozzles.

Claim 68 (New): A process for removing a coating from coated substrates, while preparing the substrates for subsequent uses in which a surface of the substrate that has been at least partially freed of coating is required, comprising:

directing a plasma onto a region of a substrate from which a coating is to be removed using a plurality of nozzles arranged in a row, to locally remove the coating, wherein the plasma has an effective width/area determined by number and/or shape of the nozzles;

producing a relative movement between the plasma and the substrate, parallel to the edge of the substrate;

pivoting the row of nozzles about an axis perpendicular to the substrate in the region of a corner of the substrate; and

producing a relative movement between the plasma and the substrate, parallel to another edge of the substrate.

Claim 69 (New): A process for removing a coating from coated substrates, while preparing the substrates for subsequent uses in which a surface of the substrate that has been at least partially freed of coating is required, comprising:

directing a plasma onto a region of a substrate from which a coating is to be removed using a slit shaped nozzle, to locally remove the coating;

producing a relative movement between the plasma and the substrate, parallel to the edge of the substrate;

pivoting the slit shaped nozzle about an axis perpendicular to the substrate in the region of a corner of the substrate; and

producing a relative movement between the plasma and the substrate, parallel to another edge of the substrate.

Claim 70 (New): A process for removing a coating from coated substrates, while preparing the substrates for subsequent uses in which a surface of the substrate that has been at least partially freed of coating is required, comprising:

directing a plasma onto a region of a substrate from which a coating is to be removed using a slit shaped nozzle, to locally remove the coating;

producing a relative movement between the plasma and the substrate, parallel to the edge of the substrate; and

positioning a flat shield directly adjacent to the substrate surface.